

August 3, 1999

A TRIBUTE TO MANUEL A.
ESQUIBEL

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Manuel A. Esquibel, who is retiring this month from his position as City Manager of Selma, California. He has dedicated his life to improving the quality of life for Selma residents.

Mr. Esquibel was born and raised in Colorado, and earned a degree from the University of Southern Colorado. He has served in local government for over 25 years, holding the positions of Assistant City Manager of Pueblo, Colorado, and later City Manager of Lindsborg, Kansas.

In 1990, Mr. Esquibel began his current position as City Manager of Selma, California. During his tenure in Selma, he has developed an effective community team approach and a motivational management style, generating excellence among city staff members.

Mr. Esquibel has been a leader in promoting economic development in Selma, participating in the "Team Selma" program, which led to the creation of over 3,500 new jobs. During his term as City Manager, Selma has received regional, state, and national recognition in the promotion of economic development. Mr. Esquibel played a critical role in planning President Clinton's successful visit to Selma in 1995.

Mr. Esquibel's tremendous dedication to Selma is surpassed only by his dedication to his family. He and his wife, Beverly, have two children—Renee and Tony—and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Manuel Esquibel for his tireless service and countless contributions to the City of Selma. We wish him nothing but the best as he retires from a long and successful career in public service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
STANTON CRAIG HOEFLER

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mr. Stanton Craig Hoeffer, who passed away on February 17, 1999 of natural causes. Born in San Francisco on February 18, 1924, Mr. Hoeffer attended Lowell High School and joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 where he flew with the "Mighty 8th" as pilot in command of a B-17 bomber over Germany. He completed his tour and later flew photo-recon aboard P-51's.

In 1976, Mr. Hoeffer became the curator of the Yanks Air Museum where he was responsible for the restoration of many Golden Years and World War II airplanes. Among these are the Curtiss Jenny, Ryan B-1, Stearman 4-D, AT-6, F6f "Hellcat", P-38 "Lightning", P-40 "Warhawk", P-47 "Thunderbolt", the P-63,

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and the Dauntless SBD to name just a few. He became an expert in the aircraft restoration field and his accomplishments have been featured in aviation periodicals around the world.

Stanton Craig Hoeffer is survived by his wife Phyllis of Phillips Ranch, five children, and nine grand-children. Memorial services were held on February 25, 1999 at the Yanks Air Museum in Chino Hills, CA.

Mr. Speaker, he will be sorely missed.

KING HASSAN II OF MOROCCO—AN
APPRECIATION BY DR. JOHN
DUKE ANTHONY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on July 23, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco passed away and his son, Sidi Mohammad ben Al Hassan assumed the throne of Morocco.

I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a particularly thoughtful and insightful essay on the role of King Hassan and his positive impact upon Morocco. The essay—"The Passing of Morocco's King Hassan II"—was written by Dr. John Duke Anthony, the president of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, secretary-treasurer of the U.S.-Gulf Cooperation Council Corporate Cooperation Committee, and a distinguished American scholar of Middle Eastern affairs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Dr. Anthony's essay be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to reflect upon his discerning appreciation of the role and significance of the reign of King Hassan II.

THE PASSING OF MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN II

(By Dr. John Duke Anthony)

In the history of America's foreign affairs, a long-running chapter with Morocco, one of our country's oldest and most important allies, closed and a new one opened this past week.

The King of Morocco, the first country to recognize the fledgling U.S. republic during the Administration of President George Washington, was laid to rest.

As anticipated, accession to the kingship of King Hassan II's eldest son and Heir Apparent, the 36-year old Moulay, now King, Mohammad VI, proceeded smoothly and effectively. Also as expected, no significant changes in Morocco's domestic and foreign policies are envisioned at this time.

What, if anything, are the implications for American and other international interests in the passing of Africa's and one of the Arab and Islamic world's longest-serving heads of state?

At first glance, the most important certainty is the certainty that key Moroccan policies are likely to continue as before.

In this, for the many who have applauded some of the routes less traveled that Morocco chose to traverse for the past decade—in the areas of constitutional reform, economic liberalization, political pluralism, advancement of human rights, the pursuit of a just and durable peace between Arabs and Israelis—there is comfort.

For those who pray and plot for the quicker rather than later passing of hereditary systems of governance—for the demise

of the Arab and Islamic world's emirs, shaikhs, sultans, and monarchs—their day, certainly with regard to Morocco, appears to be no nearer to hand than before.

Indeed, a case can be made that, in large measure because of the timeliness, relevance, and overall popularity of the late King's reforms, the imminence of the Moroccan monarchy's political demise is even more distant than it was when Hassan II succeeded his father as King of Morocco in 1960.

To say this is but to underscore the extent to which the Middle East has become so topsy-turvy within the adult lifetime of a single person: the late King of Morocco.

Had Hassan II lived and chosen to speak his mind on the subject, it's likely that he would have agreed with Diogenes, who is alleged to have requested that he be "buried with my fact to the ground, for in no time at all the world will likely be upside down."

There are ironies here. For one, search any library on the Middle East from the mid-1950s onward, and the work of one political science author to the next will be shown as having predicted with a certainty bordering on arrogance that, in short order, all the Arab world's dynasts would be overthrown, blown away as so many will-o'-the-wisp delusions into the dust.

Conventional wisdom of the day postulated that the wave of the future belonged to the Nasirists and their camp followers from Morocco to Muscat, from Baghdad to Berbera, from Aden to Algiers and Aleppo in between.

Pundits prognosticated that the coming generation, nowadays' nineteen nineties—yesterday's tomorrow—would be led not by Hassan II and his dynastic counterparts, or anyone else whose lot was hereditary, but, rather, by the proverbial middle class military officer, the khaki-clad knight on horseback.

But, in Morocco, as elsewhere in the Arab world, this was not to be. That it proved not to be the case was in large measure because Hassan II was not bereft of equestrian political skills of his own.

That those who sought to precipitate the late King's political demise failed in the end was not, however, for lack of trying. Twice, in 1970 and again in 1971, they came close to succeeding. Nor, for that matter, can it be said that they truly failed.

Indeed, the King's opponents can claim credit for having quickened his conscience and common sense to realize Morocco's national interests dictated that he institute sweeping constitutional, political, economic, and human rights reforms.

Few developing countries have traveled as far and as fast in reforming the underpinnings and trappings of its economy and socio-political system as Morocco in the last decade of the late King's reign.

In the past few years, a steady stream of American leaders have become eye-witnesses to the ongoing implementation of a range of economic and political reforms launched during the era of Hassan II.

Together with Tunisia, Morocco has been a pacesetter in embracing the economic precepts of globalization and in forging a multifaceted trade and investment relationship with the member-states of the European Union.

In heightening their awareness of the opportunities for American businesses in the "new Morocco," U.S. Congressional Representatives and staff have not been far behind. In March 1999, 110 Members of Congress signed a "Congressional Friends of Morocco" letter to President Bill Clinton. Shortly afterwards, First Lady Hillary Clinton visited Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia.

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